

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 13 and 14 without prejudice or disclaimer.

The following listing of the claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of the claims of the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-15 (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented) A radio channel assignment method for assigning radio channels for carrying out communications between a base station and a plurality of radio terminals in a radio zone of the base station, comprising the steps of:

assigning at least one radio channel to a first radio terminal in said radio zone;

determining the amount of communication data to be sent from said first radio terminal to said base station;

when the amount of communication data is determined to be above a predetermined threshold representing acceptable data transmission capacity for the number of presently assigned radio channels, requesting of said base station an increase in the number of radio channels assigned to said first radio terminal;

when the amount of communication data is determined to be below a predetermined threshold representing acceptable data transmission capacity for the number of presently assigned

radio channels, requesting of said base station a decrease in the number of radio channels assigned to said first radio terminal;

in response to a request for an increase in the number of radio channels assigned to said first radio terminal, determining whether a predetermined number of radio channels in said radio zone adjacent to the radio channel assigned to said first radio terminal are unassigned, and if so assigning said predetermined number of adjacent radio channels to said first radio terminal; if a predetermined number of radio channels in said radio zone adjacent to the radio channel assigned to said first radio terminal are not unassigned, reassigning adjacent radio channels presently assigned to other radio terminals of said plurality of radio terminals to said first radio terminal, and assigning said other radio terminals to other unassigned radio channels in said radio zone.

17. (Previously Presented) The radio channel assignment method of claim 16, wherein when said amount of communication data is below said predetermined threshold, one radio channel is assigned to said first radio terminal, and when said amount of communication data is above said predetermined threshold, a plurality of adjacent radio channels are assigned to said first radio terminal.

18. (Previously Presented) A radio channel assignment method for assigning radio channels for carrying out communications between a base station and a plurality of radio terminals in a radio zone of the base station, comprising the steps of:

assigning at least one radio channel to a first radio terminal in said radio zone;

determining the amount of communication data to be sent from said first radio terminal to said base station;

when the amount of communication data is determined to be above a predetermined threshold representing acceptable data transmission capacity for the number of radio channels assigned to said first radio terminal;

when the amount of communication data is determined to be below a predetermined threshold representing acceptable data transmission capacity for the number of presently assigned radio channels, requesting of said base station a decrease in the number of radio channels assigned to said first radio terminal;

in response to a request for an increase in the number of radio channels assigned to said first radio terminal, determining whether a predetermined number of radio channels in said radio zone adjacent to the radio channel assigned to said first radio terminal are unassigned, and if so assigning said predetermined number of adjacent radio channels to said first radio terminal; if a predetermined number of radio channels in said radio zone adjacent to the radio channel assigned to said first radio terminal are not unassigned, reassigning said first radio terminal to a predetermined number of other unassigned adjacent radio channels in said radio zone.

19. (Previously Presented) The radio channel assignment method of claim 18, wherein when said amount of communication data is below said predetermined threshold, one radio channel is assigned to said first radio terminal, and when said amount of communication data is above said

predetermined threshold, a plurality of adjacent radio channels are assigned to said first radio terminal.

20. (Previously Presented) The radio channel assignment method of claim 16, further comprising the step of decreasing the number of radio channels assigned to said first radio terminal upon receipt of a request for an assignment of a radio channel in said radio zone by a second radio terminal having no assigned radio channel in said radio zone.

21. (Previously Presented) The radio channel assignment method of claim 18, further comprising the step of decreasing the number of radio channels assigned to said first radio terminal upon receipt of a request for an assignment of a radio channel in said radio zone by a second radio terminal having no assigned radio channel in said radio zone.

22. (Previously Presented) The radio channel assignment method of claim 16, wherein said radio channels in said radio zone are frequency division multiple access channels.

23. (Previously Presented) The radio channel assignment method of claim 16, wherein said radio channels in said radio zone are time division multiple access channels.

24. (Previously Presented) The radio channel assignment method of claim 18, wherein said radio channels in said radio zone are frequency division multiple access channels.

25. (Previously Presented) The radio channel assignment method of claim 18, wherein said radio channels in said radio zone are time division multiple access channels.

26. (Previously Presented) A radio channel assignment method for assigning radio channels for carrying out communications between a base station and a plurality of radio terminals in a radio zone of the base station, comprising the steps of:

assigning at least one radio channel to a first radio terminal in said radio zone;

determining the amount of communication data to be sent from said first radio terminal to said base station;

when the amount of communication data is determined to be above a predetermined threshold representing acceptable data transmission capacity for the number of presently assigned radio channels, requesting of said first radio terminal an increase in the number of radio channels assigned to said first radio terminal;

when the amount of communication data is determined to be below a predetermined threshold representing acceptable data transmission capacity for the number of presently assigned radio channels, requesting of said first radio terminal a decrease in the number of radio channels assigned to said first radio terminal;

in response to a request for an increase in the number of radio channels assigned to said first radio terminal, determining whether a predetermined number of radio channels in said radio zone adjacent to the radio channel assigned to said first radio terminal are unassigned, and if so assigning said predetermined number of adjacent radio channels to said first radio terminal; if a

predetermined number of radio channels in said radio zone adjacent to the radio channel assigned to said first radio terminal are not unassigned, reassigning adjacent radio channels presently assigned to other radio terminals of said plurality of radio terminals to said first radio terminal, and assigning said other radio terminals to other unassigned radio channels in said radio zone.

27. (Previously Presented) The radio channel assignment method of claim 26, wherein when said amount of communication data is below said predetermined threshold, one radio channel is assigned to said first radio terminal, and when said amount of communication data is above said predetermined threshold, a plurality of adjacent radio channels are assigned to said first radio terminal.

28. (Previously Presented) The radio channel assignment method of claim 26, further comprising the step of decreasing the number of radio channels assigned to said first radio terminal upon receipt of a request for an assignment of a radio channel in said radio zone by a second radio terminal having no assigned radio channel in said radio zone.

29. (Previously Presented) The radio channel assignment method of claim 26, wherein said radio channels in said radio zone are frequency division multiple access channels.

30. (Previously Presented) The radio channel assignment method of claim 26, wherein said radio channels in said radio zone are time division multiple access channels.

31. (Previously Presented) A radio channel assignment method for assigning radio channels for carrying out communications between a base station and a plurality of radio terminals in a radio zone of the base station, comprising the steps of:

assigning at least one radio channel to a first radio terminal in said radio zone;

determining the amount of communication data to be sent from said first radio terminal to said base station;

when the amount of communication data is determined to be above a predetermined threshold representing acceptable data transmission capacity for the number of presently assigned radio channels, requesting of said first radio terminal an increase in the number of radio channels assigned to said first radio terminal;

when the amount of communication data is determined to be below a predetermined threshold representing acceptable data transmission capacity for the number of presently assigned radio channels, requesting of said first radio terminal a decrease in the number of radio channels assigned to said first radio terminal;

in response to a request for an increase in the number of radio channels assigned to said first radio terminal, determining whether a predetermined number of radio channels in said radio zone adjacent to the radio channel assigned to said first radio terminal are unassigned, and if so assigning said predetermined number of adjacent radio channels to said first radio terminal; if a predetermined number of radio channels in said radio zone adjacent to the radio channel assigned to said first radio terminal are not unassigned, reassigning said first radio terminal to a predetermined number of other unassigned adjacent radio channels in said radio zone.

32. (Previously Presented) The radio channel assignment method of claim 31, wherein when said amount of communication data is below said predetermined threshold, one radio channel is assigned to said first radio terminal, and when said amount of communication data is above said predetermined threshold, a plurality of adjacent radio channels are assigned to said first radio terminal.

33. (Previously Presented) The radio channel assignment method of claim 31, further comprising the step of decreasing the number of radio channels assigned to said first radio terminal upon receipt of a request for an assignment of a radio channel in said radio zone by a second radio terminal having no assigned radio channel in said radio zone.

34. (Previously Presented) The radio channel assignment method of claim 31, wherein said radio channels in said radio zone are time division multiple access channels.

35. (Previously Presented) The radio channel assignment method of claim 31, wherein said radio channels in said radio zone are time division multiple access channels.